

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 SPC-03 MC-02 RSC-01 DRC-01 IGA-02

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R 190815Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0289

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 1256

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FOR EA/IMS - HEAVNER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SN

SUBJECT: DIRECTED PROCUREMENT FOR LASS

1. AIR FORCE LOGISTICS COMMAND, WRIGHT-PATTERSON
AIR FORCE BASE, HAS PROPOSED FOR DET-11 CONSIDERATION
FOLLOWING PACKAGE DESIGNED TO MEET NSC DECISION TO
CONTINUE DIRECTED PROCUREMENT TO LASS FOR ONE MORE YEAR
ONLY:

A. AWARD CONTRACT TO LASS FOR 16 AIRCRAFT FOR THE
FY 75 VNAF C-130 PROGRAM, BUT WITH 13 AIRCRAFT PLACED
ON FIRM CONTRACT AND 3 AIRCRAFT ON OPTION. THE 13 AIR-

CRAFT WOULD REQUIRE WING MODIFICATION, BUT
THE 3 PLACED ON OPTION WOULD NOT. (AFLC RECOMMENDS
AGAINST SPLITTING THE 13 AIRCRAFT BETWEEN 2 CONTRACTOR
FACILITIES BECAUSE OF VNAF OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS,
DISRUPTION OF PROGRAM CONTINUITY, COSTS ASSOCIATED
WITH START-UP OF ANOTHER CONTRACTOR AND OTHER TECHNICAL
CONSIDERATIONS.)

B. PLAN TO ACCOMPLISH THE FY 75 NAVY C-130 PROGRAM
ELSEWHERE.

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C. PLAN TO ACCOMPLISH THE PACAF C-130 CORROSION CONTROL PROGRAM AT ANOTHER FACILITY.

AFLC/WPAFB HAS ALSO PROPOSED THAT IN CONNECTION WITH VIETNAMIZATION PROGRAM THE REPAIR OF VNAF C-130'S BE GRADUALLY SHIFTED FROM LASS TO VIETNAM BEGINNING HOPEFULLY WITH INITIAL 3 PLACED UNDER OPTION FOR FY 75, AND HAVE ASKED APPROPRIATE COMMANDS TO DETERMINE FEASIBILITY THIS PGWN.

2. ABOVE PACKAGE WOULD INVOLVE 344,000 MANHOURS OF DIRECTED PROCUREMENT TO LASS. HOWEVER, IF 3 AIRCRAFT PLACED ON OPTION WERE REPAIRED IN VIETNAM OR ELSEWHERE, TOTAL NUMBER OF MANHOURS WOULD BE REDUCED TO APPROXIMATELY 280,000.

3. RECOGNIZING ADVISABILITY OF NOT SPLITTING THE CONTRACT FOR THE 13 AIRCRAFT, EMBASSY HAS CONCURRED IN DE-11 MESSAGE TO AFLC/WPAFB INDICATING ACCEPTANCE OF BASIC PACKAGE SUBJECT TO WASHINGTON APPROVAL. HOWEVER, EMBASSY HAS NOT CONCURRED IN PROPOSAL TO PLACE 3 ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT NOT REQUIRING WING MODIFICATION ON OPTION SINCE THESE AIRCRAFT CAN APPARENTLY BE RECONDITIONED WITH LITTLE DIFFICULTY EITHER IN VIETNAM OR ELSEWHERE IN ASIA. CONTRACT FOR 13 VNAF C-130'S WILL PROBABLY INVOLVE CARRY-OVER OF 80,000 MANHOURS INTO FY-76. IF CONTRACT PLACED NOW, IT WOULD NOT REQUIRE SEPARATE DIRECTED PROCUREMENT DECISION FOR FY-76. HOWEVER, EMBASSY BELIEVES OPTION TO RECONDITION 3 ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT WHICH COULD ONLY BE CARRIED OUT IN FY-76 WOULD VIOLATE INTENT OF NSC DIRECTIVE TO DISCONTINUE DIRECTED PROCUREMENT TO LASS AFTER FY-75. IF DOD PROPOSES TO STATE ABOVE PACKAGE WITHOUT INCLUSION OF OPTION FOR ADDITIONAL 3 AIRCRAFT, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS CONCURRENCE. ALTHOUGH IT WOULD INVOLVE SOME CARRYOVER INTO FY-76, IT REPRESENTS SENSIBLE EFFORT TO MEET EMBASSY RECOMMENDATIONS. MOREOVER, IT HAS ADDITIONAL BENEFIT FOR LOCKHEED OF PHASING DOWN DIRECTED PROCUREMENT MORE GRADUALLY.

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